RESOLUTION RE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE n.d. (002)

PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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The difficulty of finding accommodation for both classes and Staff in University College is already so acute and will inevitably in October next reach such a point, that the Council of University College deems it necessary to lay the matter at once before the President and Governors, and to press for the immediate consideration of a problem which must be solved within the next six months.

The number of students in the College at its maximum before the war was 1300. There seems no reason why that figure should not be, at no distant date, again reached and even surpassed. It is certain that by October next there will be an increase over the present number, which at the moment of writing is 738.

The Faculty of the College now numbers 31, and will, seemingly, next October be 35.

The whole number of lecture-rooms which University College contains is only sixteen; these at present it shares with the University departments of Mathematics, Philosophy, History, Italian and Spanish.

The number of rooms belonging to University College but at present operated by Administrative Officers, is eight. The number available for lecture-rooms but situated in the

First and Second Houses of the old Residence, and used by the University departments of History and Philosophy, is three; with perhaps a fourth to be found in the Third House, at present used for Alumni and Extension purposes.

The total number of private rooms at present occupied jointly by two, or even three members of the College Staff, is ten: in addition to which there are eight rooms occupied each by one member of the Staff; the majority of these are small rooms incapable of sheltering more occupants.

Further, as the plans and policy of Hart Hall develop, it becomes more evident that many societies of which University College students form the membership, such as the Year or Class Societies, and the departmental Clubs (the Classical and Modern Language Clubs and the like), will require space in University College, and cannot find it in Hart Hall, where women have no place.

At present such associations meet at 85 St. George Street. This club-house, however, is already too small for some of these meetings; and it becomes imperative to have a larger room like the present dining-hall available for College class and departmental meetings.

Ultimately the Faculty Union, it is to be presumed,

will also be at the disposal of the College Faculty (which will have no Faculty Union or club-rooms of its own in Hart Hall) to correspond with the club-rooms in Victoria and Trinity Colleges for the Staffs of those Colleges.

The solution of these difficulties, so far as next October is concerned -- if we assume that no new building can be built by that date -- lies in the provision by purchase or otherwise

(a) of new accommodation for the University department of Philosophy. This department at present occupies the west end (second floor) of the south front of the College. It occupies also the greater part -- almost the whole -- of the First House. Included in that total space are three lecture-rooms, and four to six private rooms. Quite apart from the needs of the College, the accommodation thus provided for this department with its laboratory needs, is not satisfactory.

(b) of new accommodation for the University department of History. This department occupies a large part of the Second House, including one lecture-room and five private rooms.

(c) of new accommodation for the administration and University

departments of the Alumni Association, University Extension, Mathematics, "Varsity", "Torontonensis". These occupy ten rooms in the Third House --a portion of University College.
(d) of new accommodation for the Superintendent, who occupies five rooms in the Fourth House -- a part of University College.
(e) The old College dining-hall -- which after the present session will not be needed as a dining-hall -- will make one large lecture-room.

If all this space -- all forming part of University College -- were released for the College needs in October next, some six lecture-rooms, and twenty-five private rooms would be provided. Thus the number of new lecture rooms absolutely necessary next October might be covered. If not, it is possible that one or two lecture-rooms could be added by removing partition walls at the cost of throwing two or more private rooms into one. The number of extra private rooms which will be needed in October, to remove the present congestion and the crowding of two or three persons into one small room, is approximately twelve.

It would seem therefore that the upper storey of the west end of the south front, and houses 1, 2, 3 and 4 would afford the absolutely needful accommodation (and perhaps a little more) for the College in October next.

Further, if the College still gave shelter to the University department of Spanish and Italian, as it would wish to do, and if the College Registrar received adequate quarters, all the private rooms would be in use.

The position of the College Registrar is perhaps the most anomalous and preposterous of all. At present he has one small room (13' x 13') which he shares with a colleague in French, a stenographer, and any students who have occasion for registration purposes, or for purposes of French, to call upon him. This room must be replaced by three, at least, when reconstruction comes in October; four are desirable, since there should be some space for storage of College records and documents.

MORE PERMANENT PROVISION

For a permanent solution of the needs of University College the first, and perhaps for many years the only step necessary is the building or buying, outside of the College, of an Administration Building, and the return to the College of the eight rooms now occupied. These rooms, with the previous return of the other portions of the College, and

finally of the present Faculty Union, would add more space than perhaps the number eight suggests; one of these rooms (the Registrar's present office) being very large. It is obvious also that quarters much more convenient for Bursar, Registrar and Superintendent than the portions of University College so employed at present, could be provided in a building erected ad hoc especially, e.g., in the ravine north of the Library where the nature of the land facilitates elaborate stack-rooms and storage surface.

Practically these changes would -- with the proposed Residence Building -- secure the future of University College.

But finally, if by any chance this anticipation is too sanguine, and further congestion should follow after some years, it would still remain open to finish the north side of the quadrangle and so square the College by the erection of a narrow building of three storeys, providing some half a dozen or more lecture-rooms and a dozen or more private rooms. It is desirable, we think, that for this reason, if for no other, the northern side of the quadrangle be left open till time has shown more definitely what expansion University College may ultimately require.

The congestion at present may be illustrated by the fact that rarely on any week day, and never on Thursdays, can a room be found for a lecture between 9 and 11 A.M.; every room in the College is then occupied. And at other hours throughout the week several of the largest classes, as well as some of the smallest, are forced by lack of room to go to other buildings which happen to have vacant class-rooms. This has been true for some years of the department of English.

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